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June 2, 2004

VIA FACSIMILE (703) 746-3273 (6) PAGE(S)Director of the United States Patent
and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attention: Examiner Ms. Debra S. Meislin, Art Unit 3723

Re: U.S. Patent Application
Serial No: 09/901,305; Filed 7/9/2001
Inventors: Wayne Anderson and Paolo Cassutti
Title: IMPROVED HAND/SURVIVAL TOOL HAVING
MULTIPLE IMPLEMENTS
Docket No. P-14 (n) CIP/CONT

Dear Ms. Meislin:

The following is a proposed amendment in the above-identified patent application.

Cancel claims 97, and 104-106, without prejudice.

The Section 112 rejections were obviated or addressed.

Amend claims 92, 102 and 103 to incorporate respectively, now cancelled claims 104, 105 and 106 to read as follows.

92. (Amended) A multi-functional hand tool comprising:

at least one interchangeable tool bit member comprising a hexagonal body and a double ended drive bit, opposed pliers jaws, first and second elongated handles having oppositely disposed first and second ends,

said pliers jaws being operably disposed at said first ends, said first handle having opposed sides forming an elongated cavity,

a bladed tool, and means for pivotably connecting the bladed tool to the first handle adjacent the first handle second end,

a sleeve comprising a one-piece unitary construction formed with a circumferential tubular body having a closed-end and an open end,

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ATTORNEYS SINCE 1923 **Siegel, LLP**

Examiner Ms. Debra S. Meislin

June 2, 2004

Page 2

said open end being formed with a hexagonal cavity for removably operably holding said tool bit member,

said tool bit member being disposable in said sleeve open end, and

means for pivotably fixedly connecting the sleeve adjacent closed end to the first handle adjacent the first handle second end so that the sleeve is non-removable, whereby the sleeve and the tool bit member are pivoted from an operable position disposed away from the first handle to an inoperable position disposed in the first handle cavity so that the sleeve and tool bit are inoperably stowed in the first handle without having to remove and separately stow the tool bit member or sleeve outside the pliers first handle cavity thereby permitting ready alternate pliers or tool bit drive use; and

wherein said sleeve has a central axis;

said open end forming an annular bounding surface, said annular surface being disposed in a plane; and

said plane being perpendicularly disposed to said sleeve central axis, whereby said tubular body and said sleeve provides a uniform torque transfer to said tool bit member during said use.

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102. (Amended) A multi-functional hand tool comprising:

at least one interchangeable tool bit member comprising a hexagonal body and a drive bit, opposed pliers jaws, first and second elongated handles having oppositely disposed first and second ends,

said pliers jaws being operably disposed at said first ends,

said first handle having opposed sides forming an elongated cavity, a bladed tool, and means for pivotably connecting the bladed tool to the first handle adjacent the first handle second end,

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ATTORNEYS SINCE 1923 **Siegel, LLP**

Examiner Ms. Debra S. Meislin

June 2, 2004

Page 3

a sleeve comprising a one-piece unitary construction formed with a cylindrical tubular body having a closed-end and an open end,
said open end being formed with a hexagonal cavity extending to the closed end for removably operably holding said tool bit member,
said tool bit member being disposable in said sleeve open end,
means for pivotably fixedly connecting the sleeve adjacent said closed end to the first handle adjacent the first handle second end so that the sleeve is non-removable, whereby the sleeve and the tool bit member are pivoted from an operable position disposed away from the first handle to an inoperable position disposed in the first handle cavity so that the sleeve and tool bit are inoperably stowed in the first handle without having to remove and separately stow the tool bit member or sleeve outside the pliers first handle cavity, and said means for pivotably fixedly connecting the sleeve and said sleeve being formed to transmit torque to the tool bit member during use, thereby permitting ready alternate pliers or tool bit drive use, and
said cylindrical tubular body being formed with a wing member having oppositely disposed flat surfaces extending away from the outside of the tubular body; and
wherein:
said sleeve has a central axis;
said open end forming an annular bounding surface, said annular surface being disposed in a plane; and
said plane being perpendicularly disposed to said sleeve central axis,
whereby said tubular body and said sleeve provides a uniform torque transfer to said tool bit member during said use.

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Examiner Ms. Debra S. Meislin

June 2, 2004

Page 4

103. (Amended) A multi-functional hand tool comprising:
at least one interchangeable tool bit member comprising a hexagonal body and a double ended drive bit, opposed pliers jaws, first and second elongated handles having oppositely disposed first and second ends, said pliers jaws being operably disposed at said first ends, said first handle having opposed sides forming an elongated cavity, a sleeve comprising a one-piece unitary construction formed with a cylindrical tubular body having a closed-end and an open end, said open end being formed with a hexagonal cavity extending to the closed end for removably operably holding said tool bit member, said tool bit member being disposable in said sleeve open end, and means for pivotably fixedly connecting the sleeve adjacent said closed end to the first handle adjacent the first handle second end so that the sleeve is non-removable, whereby the sleeve and the tool bit member are pivoted from an operable position disposed away from the first handle to an inoperable position disposed in the first handle cavity so that the sleeve and tool bit are inoperably stowed in the first handle without having to remove and separately stow the tool bit member or sleeve outside the pliers first handle cavity, and said means for pivotably fixedly connecting the sleeve and said sleeve being formed to transmit torque to the tool bit member during use, thereby permitting ready alternate pliers or tool bit drive use; and

wherein:

said sleeve has a central axis;

said sleeve open end forming an annular bounding surface, said annular surface being disposed in a plane; and

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